## **Division of Commercial Fisheries Sam Rabung, Director**

Homer Area Office 3298 Douglas Place Homer, AK 99603



### Alaska Department of Fish and Game Doug Vincent-Lang, Commissioner

PO Box 115526 Juneau, AK 99811-5526 www.adfg.alaska.gov

# **Advisory Announcement**

For Immediate Release: March 8, 2021

CONTACT: Jan Rumble and Elisa Russ Groundfish Area Management Biologists (907) 235-8191

# Cook Inlet Area Parallel Pacific Cod Season Closes to Longline Vessels Greater than or Equal to 50 Feet in Length Emergency Order # 2-GF-E-05-21

The parallel Pacific cod season in the Cook Inlet Area will close to vessels greater than or equal to 50 feet in length using longline gear at 12:00 noon March 9. This coincides with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) closure of the Pacific cod catcher vessel greater than or equal to 50 feet hook-and-line gear sector in the federal Central Gulf of Alaska Area. The parallel Pacific cod season will remain open to vessels using jig gear until closed by emergency order.

Fishermen are reminded that there is a 24-hour delivery time requirement following closure of a groundfish fishery.

#### COVID-19

Under Alaska's Health Orders 5, 6, and 8, commercial fishing is an Essential Business and is part of Alaska's Essential Services and Critical Infrastructure. Commercial fishermen should ensure that all travel and other activities in support of commercial fishing operations follow protocols in Alaska COVID-19 Health Orders. COVID-19 Health Orders may be found here: <a href="https://covid19.alaska.gov/health-order/">https://covid19.alaska.gov/health-order/</a>.

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